

REMARKS

Claims 47-78 are pending in this application and are subject to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. With this amendment, claims 65, 66, 68, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78 are amended and claims 69, 70 and 72 are cancelled. All claim amendments are for providing further clarity. Applicants reserve the right to pursue cancelled subject matter in continuing applications.

Restriction Requirement

In the present Office Action, restriction is required between the following groups:

- Group I:** Claim 47-64 drawn to a cleaning agents.
Group II: Claims 65-78 drawn to methods of cleaning.

Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for restriction and respectfully request reconsideration of the requirement itself.

According to MPEP § 803, there are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions:

- (A) The inventions must be independent (see MPEP § 802.01, § 806.04, § 808.01) or distinct as claimed (see MPEP § 806.05-§ 806.05(i)); and
- (B) There must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required (see MPEP § 803.02, § 806.04(a) to § 806.04(i), § 808.01(a), and § 808.02).

Applicants respectfully submit that Groups I-II should be rejoined because examination of the cleaning agents of the present invention and methods of using the cleaning agents would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner. For example, if the agents of Group I are examined and deemed to be patentable, it follows that any method of using them are necessarily novel and unobvious. Accordingly, it would appear that examining all of the claims of Groups I and II in a single application would not be unduly burdensome. To be fully responsive, however, Applicants hereby elect the claims of group I while reserving the right to prosecute the claims of non-elected groups in future applications.

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It is also Applicants' understanding that if the elected product claims are found to be allowable, they will be entitled, as a matter of right, to rejoinder of the process claims of Groups II, which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of elected Group I. Claims 47-64 read on the elected invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. Favorable consideration and an early notice of allowance are respectfully requested.

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